

Appl. No. 09/929,068

REMARKS

Claims 20-29 are now present in this application.

Claims 20, 25, and 28 have been amended. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

It is noted that a Letter to the Official Draftsperson was filed on September 5, 2002, in which a correction to Fig. 1 was proposed. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge receipt and approval of this proposed drawing correction.

The claims stand objected to for an informality. In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this informality has been addressed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of any objection to the claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 26 and 27 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the claims particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the instant invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 20-27 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by KATO et al., U.S. Patent 5,307,041. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Claim 28 stands rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by TSUTSUMI et al., U.S. Patent 5,751,203. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 29 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over TSUTSUMI et al. in view of YAMASHITA, Japanese document 10-284331. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that, in claim 20 of the present invention, the chassis only has two stems, and all of the stems radiate out in the same direction, so that the direction of the magnetic field of the inductor can be easily identified (see page 6, lines 18-35, for example). In contrast, the chassis disclosed in KATO includes more than two stems, wherein the stems are disposed symmetrically and radiate out in different directions. Thus, the applicants emphasize that all of the stems of the chassis disclosed in the present application radiate in the same direction to easily identify the magnetic field of the inductor.

Claim 28 of the present invention has been amended to clarify the structure and arrangement of the first and the second half portion of the insulating element. This claim recites that the insulating element has a first half portion and a second half portion, wherein the first and second half portions are "symmetric with respect to one axis". Fig. 3(a) depicts the insulating element 300, while Fig. 3(b) depicts the axis B-B' to define the left-half portion and the right-half portion of the insulating element, which are symmetrical to each other. Furthermore, the

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conductive element extends from one half portion to the other portions, such that the arrangement can reinforce the structure of the chassis (see page 7, line 31 through page 8, line 5, for example). In contrast, in TSUTSUMI, the insulating element cannot be defined as a demarcation line between two symmetric half portions with the conductive elements 10 extending from one half portion to the other.

Furthermore, the arrangement of the insulating element and the conductive element in the present application reinforces the structure of the chassis and prevents the chassis from breaking where no conductive element crosses. The applicants have analyzed the prior art in TSUTSUMI, wherein the chassis still has portions that the conductive elements do not cross (see the black lines L1 and L2 in the attached figure, for example, along which the chassis may be bent or broken off).

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the chassis for an inductor set forth in independent claims 20 and 28, as well as their dependent claims, is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art utilized by the Examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 102(b) and 103 rejections are respectfully requested.

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

In the event the Examiner does not consider this application to be in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that

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this Amendment be entered for the purposes of Appeal. This Amendment should overcome the current grounds of rejection and therefore simplify the issues for Appeal. Nonetheless, it should be unnecessary to proceed to Appeal because the instant application should now be in condition for allowance.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

(Rev. 02/20/02)

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADEIN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

20. (Amended) A chassis for an inductor having a core and a coil wound around the core, the chassis comprising:

an insulting element;

a first conductive element including a first section, a second section, a first step section connected between the first and second sections, and a first stem connected to the second section, wherein the first section and the first step section are disposed inside the insulating element, the second section is embedded in the insulating element, and the first stem protrudes from the insulating element in a direction; and

a second conductive element including a third section, a fourth section, a second step section connected between the third and fourth sections, and a second stem connected to the fourth section, wherein the third section and the second step section are disposed inside the insulating element, the fourth section is embedded in the insulating element, and the second stem protrudes from the insulating element in the direction, the chassis only having two stems which all radiate in the same direction.

25. (Amended) The chassis according to claim 22, wherein the second section of the first conductive element has a second flat bottom surface, the fourth section of the second conductive element has a third flat bottom surface, [and the first, second and third flat bottom surface,] and the first, second and third flat bottom surfaces are flush with each other.

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28. (Amended) A chassis for an inductor, comprising:
an insulating element consisting of a first half portion and a second half portion, wherein the first and second half portions are symmetric with respect to one axis;

a first conductive element disposed in the insulating element, extending from the first half portion to the second half portion;
and

a second conductive element also disposed in the insulating element, extending from the second half portion to the first half portion.

Attached Fig.

